

[REDACTED]

b.

MEMORANDUM

DATE : January 27, 1995

TO : The Ambassador

THRU : John Keane, DCM

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Analysis of Bamaca Reporting

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Bamaca probably was captured alive, but might have been either killed by Colonel Julio Roberto Alpirez or taken away to Guatemala City to collaborate with the Directorate of Intelligence (D-2).

When compared with intelligence that has been developed by the Defense Attache's Office, and the testimony of Santiago Cabrera Lopez (attachment), the case becomes even more muddled. Based on this additional information, the bulk of the information we have suggests that Bamaca was taken away from Western Guatemala. This evidence might argue against heavy reliance on the report that suggests Alpirez was the trigger-man in Bamaca's death.

Our office will continue to dig for more information on the death. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This office has pressed the Bamaca case since it broke in March 1992. We will continue to do so, and feel confident that by focusing our efforts on the Alpirez angle, we will eventually arrive at something that approaches a "truth" we can all have confidence in.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

DATE

June 94

2-143

13 2

[REDACTED]

## Timeline of Efraín Bamaca Velasquez Reporting:

Summary: The CIA Guatemala City Station has been able to determine [REDACTED] that Efraín Bamaca Velasquez, alias "Comandante Everardo," was captured alive by government forces in Western Guatemala on 12 March 1994. There is conflicting reporting on what happened to Bamaca after he was captured. Various Station and DAO reports indicate he was taken away from Western Guatemala, perhaps to Guatemala City. A recent report indicates he may have been killed by a Guatemalan officer, but does not say where, how, or when.

Mar 1992:

Revolutionary Organization of People in Arms (ORPA) Commander "Everardo" reported captured alive on 12 March 1992 and cooperating with the Army. [REDACTED]

Jul 1993:

Station reports the Guatemalan Army is holding members of the URNG in a system of clandestine jails and coerces them to work against Guatemalan Guerrillas. One [REDACTED] officer says Efraín Bamaca Velasquez, alias "Everardo," was alive, another officer neither confirms nor denies he is alive. [REDACTED]

May 1994:

An officer [REDACTED] said he personally interviewed Bamaca. He implied that Bamaca was in good, if not excellent health when captured. Bamaca was turned over to the Directorate of Intelligence (D-2) "shortly" thereafter. [REDACTED]

Oct 1994:

An officer alleges that Bamaca was captured alive, was interviewed by former President Serrano, but died of his wounds shortly thereafter. [REDACTED]

Nov 1994:

An officer says Bamaca offered no resistance to an Army patrol during his capture. He was held at San Marcos and Santa Ana Berlin, Quetzaltenango Department. He collaborated with military intelligence, and was later turned over to the D-2. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dec 1994:

An officer says Bamaca was captured alive, but is dead. He offered the identities of the commanders in San Marcos at the time, but did not add details on the death or interrogation.

A [REDACTED] officer said Bamaca was unharmed or lightly wounded and taken alive. He guessed that Bamaca was alive 4-5 weeks after his capture, but lost track of the case thereafter. He opined Bamaca was killed by the Army when he had outlived his usefulness. [REDACTED]

Jan 1995:

In early December 1994, a [REDACTED] Guatemalan government official learned [REDACTED] that Bamaca was killed by Colonel Julio Roberto Alpirez. The story was confirmed during a mid-January 1995 conversation [REDACTED]

### *Suspected Time Lines in the Efraim Bamaca Case*

*The following is sourced by [REDACTED]*

#### *March 1992*

- *Captured during a firefight near Nuevo San Carlos, Military Zone 1316 (Suchitepequez).*
- *Taken to the Southern Air Base at Retalhuleu and then removed from the base by ground transportation to an unknown location.*

#### *Beginning of April 1992*

- *Moved to Military Zone 18 Headquarters (San Marcos) and held for approximately one month.*

#### *End of April/Beginning of May 1992*

- *Moved from Military Zone 18 by helicopter to an unknown location.*

*The following is sourced by Santiago ((Cabrera)) Lopez.*

#### *12 March 1992*

- *Captured during a firefight near Nuevo San Carlos, Military Zone 1316 (Suchitepequez).*
- *Taken by helicopter to Santa Ana Berlin in Coatepeque, Military Zone 1715 (Quetzaltenango).*

#### *15 April 1992*

- *Moved by helicopter from Santa Ana Berlin to Guatemala City.*

#### *18 July 1992*

- *Seen at Military Zone 18 (San Marcos).*

*Note: Dates/time lines are not exact, with the exception of the date of capture.*

*Timelines in the Efrain Bamaca Case*

9309

[REDACTED] states that he learned [REDACTED] that Bamaca had been captured alive, held incommunicado, interrogated a number of times, and then killed.

016

9411

[REDACTED] Bamaca was lightly wounded during a firefight outside of Retalhuleu in March 1992, captured and initially interrogated there. He was later moved and held at Military Zone 18 (San Marcos) where he underwent further interrogation. He was eventually move from San Marcos to an unknown location.

038

9411

[REDACTED] Bamaca was interrogated principally by Major Julio Alberto ((Soto)) Bilbao, the G-3 and Major Mario Ernesto ((Sosa)) Orellana, the G-2. They were assisted by two doctors assigned to San Marcos.

178

9411

[REDACTED] Bamaca was captured during a firefight near Nuevo San Carlos, Military Zone 1316 (Suchitepequez) on 12 March 1992. He was taken to the Southern Air Base at Retalhuleu that evening and then removed from the base several hours later by ground transportation to an unknown location.

179

9411

[REDACTED] Bamaca was not taken to Military Zone 18 (San Marcos) until the end of March 1992, and held there only until the end of April or the beginning of May 1992.

178